

other States during the last three years; and

(e) If so, the State-wise details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) India has adequate reserves in respect of several minerals. While Comprehensive data on mineral deposits are maintained under the National Mineral Inventory, mineral wise Statewise information on important mineral deposits is indicated in the statement attached. Further, separate information for mineral deposits in tribal areas is not maintained.

(c) to (e) Exploration and exploitation of minerals in the country is governed by the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and the rules made thereunder. In the context of overall liberalisation of the economy, the Government does not contemplate nationalisation of mines and in fact as per the policy prescription under National Mineral Policy, 1993, private sector investment for exploration and exploitation of minerals has to be encouraged. In this context, the Government dereversed 13 minerals hitherto reserved for exclusive exploitation by the public sector. The Government has further taken a series of steps under the National Mineral Policy besides amendments to the MM (R&D) Act, 1957 and the rules made thereunder with a view to encourage private sector investment including foreign investment in the mineral sector.

Statement

Metallogenic belts in India

(a) Copper-Lead-Zinc

Khetri (Rajasthan), Mosabani (Bihar), Malanjkhand (Madhya Pradesh), Sargipalli (Orissa), Kalyadi (Karnataka), Agnigundala (Andhra Pradesh), Zawar-Rajpura-Dariba-Barnikalan-Rampura-Agucha Belt (Rajasthan).

(b) Gold

The green stone belts of South India, including the Kolar, Hutti Gadag and Chitradurga schist belts, are the primary source of gold deposits. The Marudra deposits in Kerala, the Himalayan foothill regions in Himachal Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan, are important for alluvial and placer deposits.

(c) Diamond

Panna is a centre for Kimberlite mining in Madhya Pradesh. New ideas for Kimberlite have been recently been reported by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) near Raipur; Ramkheria-Hirappur conglomerate belt in Madhya Pradesh; and the Vajrakarur Kimberlite belt in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Iron Ore

Goa, Bellary-Hospet belt (Karnataka), Bailadila (Madhya

Pradesh), Rawghat-Dalli-Rajhara in Madhya Pradesh, Chirila-Manoharpur in Bihar, Bonai-Keonjhar belt in Orissa, Badampahar-Gorumahisani belt in Orissa, Kudermukh Magnesite belt in Karnataka, Chitradurga (Karnataka).

(e) Manganese

Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra belt, Bonai-Keonjhar belt (Orissa), Visage (Andhra Pradesh), North Kanara and Sandur belts in Karnataka, Adilabad belt in Andhra Pradesh and Goa.

(f) Chromite

Sukunda-Nuasahi chromite belt in Orissa and Byrapur belt in Karnataka.

(g) Bauxite

Kutch-Jamnagar belt in Gujarat, Ratnagiri in Maharashtra, East-coast Bauxite belt covering Andhra Pradesh and Orissa, Madhya Pradesh Bauxite belt covering Amarkantak-Phutkaphar, Jamirapat-Mainpat etc. Satna-Rewa belt (Madhya Pradesh), Netarhat plateau and adjoining areas in Gumla and Lohardaga district of Bihar.

(h) Limestone & Dolomite

Rich deposits are widespread across many states of India particularly, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Orissa, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

(i) Soapstone

Major concentrations are found in the Udaipur-Dungarpur belt of Rajasthan, and Dagota-Jharna and adjoining deposits near Jaipur.

Construction of Damaged Building at Palam

5321. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the buildings damaged by fire at Palam Air Port are proposed to be constructed/ repaired; and

(b) the cost likely to be incurred on the above construction work?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Reconstruction of Terminal 1A at Indra Gandhi International Airport is expected to be completed by December, 1997 at an estimated cost of Rs. 26 crores.

Distribution of Dak by Women in Raipur

5322. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether letters are being distributed by the women carrying 14-16 kg. of letters in a basket in Raipur District for the last thirty years;

(b) if so, the details of their pay, facilities and